

ABSTRACT

Background & Objectives: Medical wastes is of great significance due to its related potential environmental impacts; therefore this study aimed to examine the medical waste management in Ardabil city in the year 2016.

Methods: In this cross-sectional study, medical waste sources of Ardabil city were studied. Initial data were obtained from library information, observation, checklist, questionnaire and the quantity of produced wastes in medical waste sources determined with weighting in three consecutive days in a season. Also the other items of waste management pattern in medical waste sources of Ardabil city were studied based on ministry of health, treatment and medical training's guidelines. Data analysis was performed by comparing situation with the rules and using Excel and SPSS software.

Results: The total amount of produced medical waste in all medical waste sources of Ardabil city was 6471.11 kg/day, which the share of hospitals and other medical waste sources was 72.04 percent and 27.96 percent respectively. Produced medical waste including in average, 51.84 percent general waste, 45.61 percent biomedical waste, 1.25 percent sharp waste and 1.30 percent chemical- pharmaceutical waste of total produced wastes. The rate of produced waste in the studied hospitals was 2.74 to 5.70 kg/b.d. Implementation phases of waste management in hospitals were matched poor to medium and in the other sources were matched very poor to good with laws. The coverage and protective equipment of the workers were not fully respected in each case, and the average percentage of using personal protective equipment was 33.33-83.33 percent. 5 hospitals (of 7 studied hospitals) had been equipped with biomedical treatment systems with 40 percent proper functioning at all. Treatment system of Ardabil city blood transfusion center and the private sector company were both proper functioning. The results of the measurement of hospital workers awareness about medical waste management showed that most workers are aware of the average score.

Conclusion: Medical waste management in studied medical waste sources didn't have suitable situation and need a planning for continuous training and performance monitoring.

Key words: management, medical waste, hospital, health care centers, Ardabil.